

tive potential is reduced and γ_G will decrease. This behavior seems to be characteristic of all metals. Thus to the extent that such force models are realistic for more complicated polyatomic solids, one may expect a similar type of behavior in their γ_G . However in the latter materials a quantitative estimate of the decrease is difficult.

There are two practical limitations to the use of these two-parameter fits for extrapolating low-pressure data on more complicated solids. The first is the frequent appearance of high-pressure

phase transitions in polyatomic solids such as minerals which will limit the range of densities of a single solid phase by an unknown amount. The second is the necessity of accurately measuring the two parameters at low pressure. Unfortunately, ultrasonic measurements of B_T' do not always agree among themselves or with shock-wave data. There remains, therefore, a strong need to improve the accuracy of ultrasonic measurements of B_T' in order to obtain reliable extrapolations of solid-compression data.

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